

CANADIAN MOVING PICTURE DIGEST

Vol. 19, No. 48

TORONTO 2, CANADA

March 31st, 1928



TRY THIS TEST!

pick any territory in America and you'll find the exhibitors are doing the biggest business with Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Pictures.

For Instance, Here Are a Few Reports From the Current Issue of a Northwest Trade Publication

ADAM & EVIL
Very entertaining. Satisfied all. Two Harbors, Minn.

BABY MINE
Drew well and pleased. Dassel, Minn.

BECKY
Another wow. M-G-M has plenty of these surprises. Patrons ate it up. Dickinson, N. D.

BEN-HUR
Greatest ever made. Book it. You can't go wrong. Christinon & Wright, Minn.

BODY AND SOUL
Set new house record. Brocket, N. D.

BIG PARADE
Four days to capacity. 100 per cent. Palm, Minn.

BUTTONS
A picture that pleased them. Albany, Minn.

FAIR CO-ED
Action. Comedy. Best Davies ever made. Perfect entertainment. Hoffman, Minn.

BODY AND SOUL
Drew good crowd. Brice, Minn.

FRONTIERS-MAN
Another good McCoy. Surely pleased. North Branch, Minn.

LAW OF THE RANGE
One fine Western. Watertown, Minn.

LONDON AFTER MIDNIGHT
They're still talking about it. Give us more. Brocket, N. D.

ROSE-MARIE
Exceptionally fine. Strong drawing power. Willow City, N. D.

SPRING FEVER
Another dandy. Set house record. Brocket, N. D.

THIRTEENTH HOUR
One of best. A real one, boys. Dickinson, N. D.

WEST POINT
They don't make them any better. Cloquet, Minn.

NOTE: We placed our finger on the map of the U. S. A. blind-folded. The territory we picked happened to be Minnesota. Read the reports from that section. No matter what territory you chance to pick, you'll find the box-office facts are the same.



M-G-M

PUBLISHED BY
CANADIAN MOVING PICTURE DIGEST COMPANY LIMITED
259 SPADINA AVENUE, TORONTO 2



Good news travels fast in this business. Exhibitors who wisely booked M-G-M's Shorts as well as Features have found that this complete quality program is the most constructive force for good which has been introduced into the industry in years.

YOU HEAR IT EVERY DAY!

TALK ABOUT VALUES THAT GO TO MAKE A MONEY SHOW! M-G-M HAS THE TOP OFFERINGS IN EVERY DEPARTMENT!

M-G-M STARS *the leaders of all*

JOHN GILBERT NORMA SHEARER
RAMON NOVARRO GRETA GARBO
MARION DAVIES LON CHANEY
WILLIAM HAINES DANE-ARTHUR
CODY-PRINGLE TIM MCCOY

IN ONE SEASON

BEN-HUR
THE BIG PARADE
THE ENEMY
LOVE
THE STUDENT PRINCE
...

M-G-M SHORTS

consistently best
HAL ROACH COMEDIES
"OUR GANG"—CHARLEY CHASE
MAX DAVIDSON—LAUREL-HARDY
...

M-G-M NEWS

the newsreel sensation
...

M-G-M GREAT EVENTS

a distinguished dramatic series in Technicolor
...

M-G-M ODDITIES

the UFA marvels produced all over the world

ON Film Row
THEY call it
SMART buying
TO book the
COMPLETE program
FROM Metro-
GOLDWYN-Mayer.
THE proof is
THAT more and
MORE exhibitors
ARE increasing
RECEIPTS
WITH an entire
M-G-M
QUALITY show.



"OUR GANG"—This name in your ads is money at the b.o. The public loves these rascals.

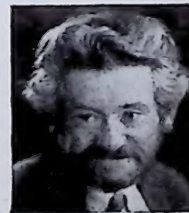


STAN LAUREL-OLIVER HARDY

They are a riot! Exhibitors advertise them like a feature. One hit after another has made them a known money draw.

MAX DAVIDSON

—the consistent quality of Hal Roach comedies amazes all comedy producers.



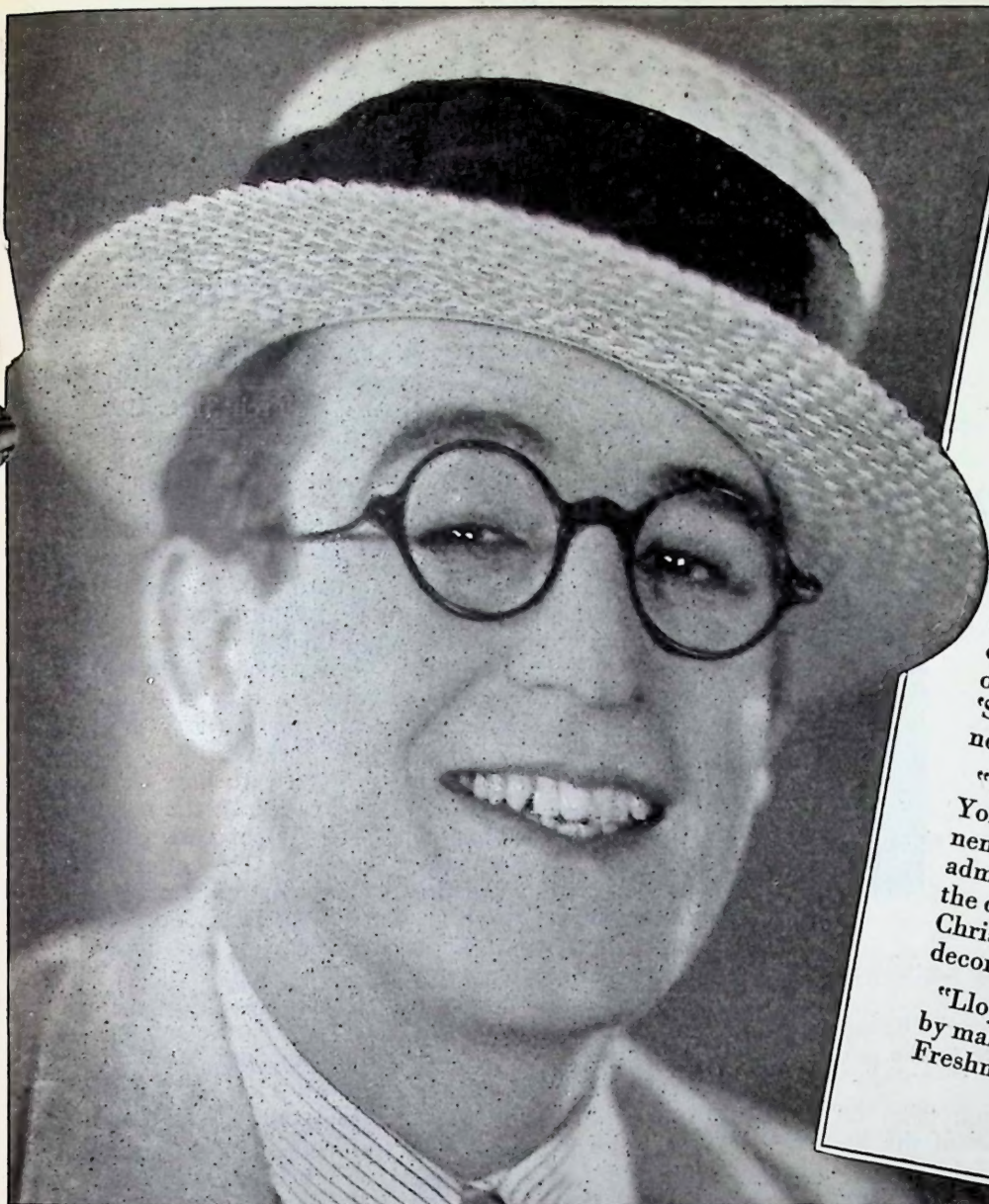
CHARLEY CHASE

—his comedies are in the de luxe class. Watch for "Limousine Love."



METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER

THE BEST COMPLETE SHOW ON THE MARKET



MOTION PICTURE MAGAZINE
for June joins nation-wide praise:

"SPEEDY"

"Lloyd never disappoints. 'Speedy' hurdles the heights of hilarity. The picture has more good gags than a shad has roe. Or even two shads. And these are flavored with the proper paprika of plot which entitles the entire dish to a rating of A+1 in the Bradstreet of Entertainment.

"Lloyd dominates the production in all its departments. Like a mirthful Colossus the shadow of his genius is ever apparent. In addition to a wealth of gentle humor and as much boisterous fun as is safe for the average heart, 'Speedy' has a chase sequence that cannot be topped for thrills.

"The locale of the picture is New York, and 'Babe' Ruth plays a prominent role. The 'Babe' acquits himself admirably, as does Bert Woodruff as the driver of an ancient horse-car, Ann Christy, a 'Baby Star,' is intelligently decorative in the ingenue role.

"Lloyd blazes the way to new triumphs by making this one funnier than 'The Freshman'."

Herb Cruikshank

1928's big box-office attraction!

☞ Skies are blue. Business is great! "Speedy" is here!

☞ Coming to smash all previous records sky-high!

HAROLD LLOYD

in "Speedy"

Produced by Harold Lloyd
Corp. A Paramount Release

Canadian Moving Picture DIGEST

Published by Canadian
Moving Picture Digest
Company, Limited

259 Spadina Ave. - Toronto
New York Office
45 West 45th Street

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Editor and Managing Director

Established in 1915 for
Exhibitors

Subscription: \$5.00 yearly
Telephone: Trinitly 1481

Vol. 19, No. 48.

TORONTO, CANADA

March 31st, 1928

Reforming Our Youth

INDUSTRIES as well as humans are subject to plagues.

The Industry of Motion Pictures, more than any other Industry, appears to be continually in danger of becoming infected with "Reformitis."

"Reformitis" may not be in the dictionary, but that does not make it less infectious, nor less virulent.

It is generally a microbe which finds fertile soil in areas of the human flesh in which there is lodged these much discussed "inhibitions" and "suppressed desires." It is the microbe which inspires the human to have "a whale of a good time," saving the soul of someone else, in other words it is the sanctimonious germ of the reformer.

Motion Pictures has unfortunately contacted "Reformitis" upon many occasions; and the antidote to the poison has always been a costly one.

This germ of a reformer's self-expression takes on various forms, from improving the condition of the Independents in order to "Hurrah" votes, to labeling pictures; and inspiring legislation for stricter censorship; and lastly the non-attendance of children under sixteen to Motion Picture theatres in order to safe-guard their sex emotions.

The Adult of this age having gone decidedly mad with its suppressed desires; and its urge to re-awaken physically atrophied functioning organs, is going to get a "kick" by suppressing the healthy, normal desires of our Modern Youth. Besides there is that human enjoyment of "misery likes company."

Sterility and "Reformitis" microbes have linked and invaded legislation in order to castrate Motion Pictures, so that our children shall find nothing of the life force in Motion Pictures, and still unsatisfied with the Eunuch which Censor Scissors has created, these frenzied reformers are determined to root out the serpent in the garden of our Youth's Eden, to close the gates of a Motion Picture paradise in the face of our youth, so that they will not get an opportunity to eat of the Tree of Knowledge, of good and evil.

Aurelian Belanger, M.P.P., introduced a Bill extending the power of the Censor Board in relationship to its survey of pictures. The Bill passed the Municipal Committee of the Ontario House, Wednesday, March 28th.

The proposed amendment of the Theatre and Cinematograph Act, as presented in the Belanger Bill, creates a definite distinction between pictures suitable for children and those suitable for adults.

Right upon the heels of this Bill comes an agitation in connection with "children's attendances at movies."

The press announces "Police Watching Movies," "Under-Age Children," "Special School Children's Mat-



RAY LEWIS

inee,' "Case to be probed by Inspector McKinney." On another page we have "School Fought Losing Battle with Movies."

It appears that the principal of a certain school connects up the absence of several children from school upon a certain afternoon as due to the presentation of "Ben Hur" in a neighborhood theatre.

The matter was referred to the chief school inspector, D. D. Mosier, to the management committee of the Board of Control; and on to the Board of Education.

From the Board of Education the matter was referred to the Hon. Dr. Monteith, Provincial Treasurer of Ontario; and under whose direct jurisdiction comes Motion Pictures.

Trustee Loftus Reid is reported as follows: "I don't think any child under 16 should be admitted to a moving picture house whether accompanied by an adult or not."

Otherwise members of the Committee viewed Motion Pictures as a possible "menace" to the youth of the city.

This is all apropos of the "Reformitis" with which our Industry is forever plagued; and in commenting upon the situation it may be informative to our Board of Education to state that the picture of "Ben-Hur" would contain more educational value to a child under sixteen, or over for that matter, than many afternoons spent in school, where many children are forced to memorize pages of information which neither their brain will absorb nor has the power to retain. Information which becomes "brain weeds," and does not help the child economically or spiritually in life!

"Ben Hur" is Art, Beauty, Truth, Religion, Literature, Geography, History and General Knowledge. It is a Spiritual Inspiration.

If the children attended a matinee performance of "Ben Hur" with the permission of their parents, I congratulate the parents upon the good sense which they exercised; why are the trustees so worked up about it?

Those who observe will note that, whenever someone is trying to get some adverse Motion Picture legislation passed, propaganda of this kind is used, but as that very clever Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer advertising manager said, "No matter how thin you cut it, it is still Bologney," we recognize the same vision as that evident in the Belanger Bill.

What better propaganda could be utilized than this one which recounts how children stay away from school to attend Movies?

The weak spot in the propaganda is the fact that the picture is "Ben Hur." The supporters of the Bill should have selected "Sexy Lizzie;" and then the gang of devitalized Reforming Microbes would have had some fertile soil upon which to breed their contagion.

(Continued on Page 9)

Ray Presents

"THE ENEMY" is the first War film which to my mind, comes out boldly, without camouflage, in opposition to War.

"The Big Parade," "What Price Glory," "Legion of the Condemned," and a flock of other features with War backgrounds utilized the anti-War idea in titles and situations, but War's glorifying thrills were still there; and the militarists could still take their children to see these War films feeling secure that they would get the War angle.

"THE ENEMY" besides being excellently produced and acted, goes after War in true anti-War fashion.

I was interested in watching the audience get the War home-truths; and although some of the older set had quizzical expressions, there were enough humans among the audience to be in sympathetic accord with the idea back of "The Enemy," and to spread its most necessary gospel.

TAKE AWAY the "atrocious propaganda" from a War, and there is very little inspiration left for men to go out and kill each other.

"The Enemy" reveals how this "atrocious stunt" was worked by every country; and we have yet to be shown, the glasses of rum, thick as molasses given to our men in order to enable them to grasp their bayonets with which they armed themselves to go over the top, bayonets pointed and sharpened to be plunged into some other human's rum-filled and rum-crazed body.

More pictures like "The Enemy," as entertaining, as well produced and well acted, carrying its message, not obviously, but subtly should do more in spreading the Gospel of Peace than a War-tied Christianity, whose ministers preached "God Destroy The Enemy and Preserve US, Your Children."

THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS could have no better co-operative board to spread its mission and make permanent its objective than a Moving Picture committee specially designed to publicize The League of Nations and make War a matter of arbitration only.

If intelligence and good-will will not solve international problems, it is certain that cannons,

poison gas, etc., will not; and has not. The last War proved that every nation was "licked," some perhaps a little more than others, but there was no conquering hero, for the day of such glorification has passed, the public no longer expects the burning and pillaging of conquered territories, the destroying of their men; and the captivity of their women and children.

WITHOUT such rampage, with the principle of the "integrity of nations" prevailing, War is a futile expedient to solve anything. It is simply the organized primitive instinct which when enraged strikes out with fists, nails, teeth, or sharpened instruments to overpower an opposing human, who will not agree with you, nor let you have your way.

"The Enemy" very cleverly carries out this primitive aspect of War; and when Polly Parrot, pet of the militarist class, shouts out her glory of War, even in the midst of War's desolation, the audience laugh heartily when Polly lands in the soup. It is a very clever bit; and throughout the picture we have a succession of similar bits which tell their story through the irony of laughter, laughter and tears.

THE LAW recently passed in Quebec prohibiting children under sixteen from attending movies belongs to the Dark Ages. I could say a lot, but considering that the Province is Quebec; and not the Province in which I am resident, out of courtesy for a sister Province I refrain from much comment, but of all the laws, this one should go down in history as a prize-winner of foolish and bigoted legislation.

While the children of other Provinces are educated into thinking for themselves, and receiving a general knowledge through the medium of Motion Pictures, taught the difference between good and evil; and the unfailing victories of those who play the game fair and square in life, as pictures invariably show, the children, mark you, children under sixteen, old enough to bear and create children, mentally old enough today to be grandparents, these will not be permitted to see any picture save those which can be shown in convents and schools.

I said I would not say anything, but if our Motion Picture Exchanges co-operate in the remotest way in offering any pictures for such service I hope that the next radical legislation which Quebec puts through will be even

more destructive to their interests than this Bill recently passed.

NO MOTION PICTURES of any kind, ancient or new, features, news reels, educationals, short subjects, not one foot of film should be loaned or sold, to the Province of Quebec for exhibition in any institute, outside of a theatre where the public pays its admission.

AND DON'T be bull-dozed, or intimidated into any other attitude. You have had a lot of soft-soap promises. The inquiry was rather expensive, Justice Boyd's decision presumably a victory, and a vindication of Motion Pictures. Where are the fruits of this victory? Dead sea apples, ashes in your mouth.

Bah, oh if I could only tell you what I think. Would it help you out if I said eliminate "pussy-footing policies?"

A GREAT BIG, robust, vibrant, positive, bull-dog "No," is the attitude to take when you are opposed to certain demands; and a demand for rights. Take these demands right to the public, fearlessly to the public, using your funds in telling your story, instead of wasting it in "pussyfooting." This will prove much more satisfactory and profitable in the end.

WORK to kill Movies in educational institutions where such co-operation is growing for the destruction of Motion Picture Entertainment in theatres. If Movies are not good enough for children to see in theatres, they do not become moral, or purified because they are brought into a church, or a school.

No Movies for children under sixteen in Quebec should be carried out 100% as far as the Industry of Motion Pictures is enabled to carry it out. Let the agitators make their own pictures for this purpose; and get some co-operation abroad so that these films cannot be imported. Surely this Industry is powerful enough internationally to protect its interests; and organize a defensive program for just such legislation as has been enacted. For it is not the children alone, it is their parents also who are effected by this Bill.

AND NOW it is high time for an international film board for the protection of the Film Industry; and the elimination of that jealousy of film trade among nations which may prove a spark to ignite more War propaganda, trade jealousies which inspire national hatreds and are the forerunners of War.

Quebec Bill Passes Children Prohibited

Premier Taschereau Wins Support of
Bill Prophecy Another Laurier
Palace Disaster

Premier Taschereau, used all his eloquence in winning support for the Bill which prohibits the attendance of children under sixteen to Motion Picture Theatres in the Province of Quebec.

The Premier in closing the debate on the question warned the members of the House of their responsibility if the Bill was thrown out, should a similar catastrophe to the one enacted during the Laurier Palace fire occur.

The Premier condemned in no uncertain terms the attacks to which he had been subjected on the question of Sunday Theatre Closing.

"Sky pilots" as well as the "good press" who had not supported the Premier were accused of not being willing to expose themselves as targets, but said the Premier in his fiery declaration "I will be the bull's eye." He threw the bull so beautifully that hysterical applause greeted his remarks and the Bill, which is really Premier Taschereau's Bill passed 57 to 5.

T. D. Bouchard, Liberal M.L.A. for St. Hyacinthe was the only voice made itself heard in opposition to the Bill. This to the credit of St. Hyacinthe and the Province of Quebec. Four other members voted with him, Joseph Power of Quebec West, Calton Oliver of Brome, Dr. C. A. Bernard of Rouville, and S. Desmarais of Richmond.

The Montreal Gazette publishes the following report:

"In opening the debate at the morning sitting, the premier said the custom of allowing moving picture house to open on Sunday had been established some time ago, the Lord's Day Act not having been observed, and he intended shortly to make 'test cases,' so that the matter could be settled definitely. He took occasion to compliment the board of censors. Personally, the premier said, he did not believe that movies are desirable for children under the age of 16, but the matter was one in which other members might differ from him, and all were free to vote as they saw fit. He referred to the campaign against him in Montreal newspapers launched under the auspices of the Retail Merchants' Association, and quoted the Lord's Day Act to support the contention that the federal statute does not affect the retailer beyond agreement with provincial laws and regulations enacted by a municipality under authority of provincial laws.

Mr. Taschereau referred to the Laurier Palace disaster, and showed that one newspaper after another had demanded that steps be taken to prevent a repetition, it having been shown that of the 78 bodies only two had been burned. The premier referred to the evidence of Judge Lacroix, of the Montreal juvenile court, and of Judge Choquette of Quebec, that juvenile delinquency is largely due to the movies. Furthermore, enforcement of a law excluding children under 16 years of age unless accompanied was hard, since grown-ups not related to the children often took them into the theatres and the moving picture proprietors had the greatest difficulty in keeping the law, a state of affairs which would be obviated if all children were prohibited. Theatre owners are favoring the exclusion of the children, a delegation having told him that "children were a nuisance rather than anything else." Only a year ago there had been a threat made by American film producers that unless the restrictions were relaxed there would be no distribution of films in Quebec. The Government

had refused to interfere with the censors, and the films were still coming in.

He told the members they were free to vote as they wish.

SAYS LAW IS UNJUST.

Mr. Bouchard commenced by saying, that he did not think it opportune to declare himself on the question of Sunday theatres, since that is a matter which comes under the federal law, and the courts are to pronounce on the matter. He declared that the Association of Proprietors of Theatres and Moving Pictures of the Province of Quebec had not instigated the campaign which had been appearing in the newspapers of the metropolis, and of which the premier had just complained. This association had deemed it useless to send petitions and letters to the premier to prove that a large part of the population is in favor of the Sunday cinema since the receipts collected by the Government for the hospitals proved amply that over 100,000 persons attend the movies on Sundays. The campaign under way in Montreal was not approved by the association mentioned.

The law before the House was unjust, said Mr. Bouchard, for it refused to permit a father to take his child to the cinema, and in that way affected parental control. He said also that to prevent a mother taking her child to the movies often would mean that the mother herself could not attend, not having any one to care for the children.

General Smart, Westmount, said he would vote for the second reading of the bill because he believed in the principle, but that he would vote against it in third reading unless it were amended. He thought that the age limit should be reduced to 12 because it was rather inconsistent that a girl of 12 and a boy of 14 were legally permitted to marry, but that under the law as suggested they would be refused admittance to movie theatres. He also wanted the bill amended to include all theatres. There were many theatres in Montreal at which shows not fit for children to see were given. Some of them were probably worse than anything shown in the movie theatres, he said.

Mr. Bouchard, the member for Westmount, continued, had waxed eloquent on the subject of parental right and had said that he claimed the right for his children to go to cinemas or not. "He was either suffering from a lapse of memory or was most inconsistent," General Smart said, "because it was only a short time ago that he was strongly urging compulsory education in this province. I cannot see any difference between urging compulsory education and urging the prohibition of young children going to cinemas." In this connection, he quoted two sections of the British North America Act on the rights of the subject, but in both cases it was noted that it was subject always to existing laws and if we pass this law restricting children from attending cinemas, the right of the subject would not thereby be affected.

EFFECT ON HEALTH.

The speaker said that from conversation with doctors and educationalists, he had been convinced that cinemas and theatres affected the health of young children, especially by causing diseases of a nervous order and also affecting the eyesight.

Speaking of censorship, he congratulated the Prime Minister on dubbing the threat of American film producers to close cinemas in Montreal mere bluff. The member for Westmount thought the time had arrived when Quebec should fix a quota on American films, as was done in Great Britain, France, Italy, Spain and other countries, where American films were regarded as propaganda.

Mr. Sauve said the question was a thorny one, and he referred to the evidence of Judge Lacroix before the Royal Commission, for such evidence should be given serious attention because of the source. It was evident, he said, that much harm was done to the morals of the children because of moving picture. The bill, however, was only

half a measure, for it did nothing to prohibit the cinema being opened on Sunday, and both Catholic and Protestant clergy, not to mention a large number of associations and societies, claimed that such a step should be taken. Mr. Sauve regretted that the Attorney-General had not seen fit long ago to take action before the courts to prevent the Sunday shows, for each year they were allowed the situation became aggravated.

Hon. J. E. Perrault, Minister of Colonization, Mines and Fisheries said it was the federal law which has to do with the theatres on Sunday and anyone can take an action before the courts providing the permission of the Attorney-General was obtained and never has that permission been refused. The minister said four-fifths of the moving pictures are not good for children, and in most cases were even harmful for the morals of young girls and young boys, and the children would be better off if they did not attend. As to the liberty of the parent to educate his children, which issue had been raised by Mr. Bouchard, Mr. Perrault said there are many laws in the statute books which restrict parental and other individual liberty. He believed in respecting parent control, but if the parent does not care for the morals of the child, certainly the state has a right to intervene. Even under the present law, liberty is restricted, for the present law does not permit the admission of children unless accompanied by their parents. The state always has the right and the duty to restrict individual liberty when public order and public morals were concerned, and see to the public security. The minister complimented Premier Taschereau in high terms for bringing in the law, for it showed courage, and was timely. How did the present law work out in practice? demanded Mr. Perrault. It had been shown in the enquiry before Mr. Justice Boyer that the law was flagrantly broken, that in the theatre in question were children of eight and ten years, who were not accompanied, and that the proprietor had not concerned himself in the matter of seeing the law was obeyed. It had even been shown that some of the children had been present, without even the knowledge of their parents, not to speak of their parents not being present.

"I think the Prime Minister would have failed in his public duty if he had not brought in this law," said the minister. "As Attorney-General, it was time that he intervened, so that the children would be protected."

CINEMA IS DOING HARM.

Lucien Lamoureux, Liberal, of Iberville, declared himself for the bill, saying that the cinema is doing the children harm, and he was glad to hear also that the Sunday theatre is to be done away with.

William Tremblay, Conservative, of Maisonneuve, Montreal, dealt with the Boyer enquiry following what was called the regrettable accident of the Laurier Palace. The word regrettable was correct, but not the word accident, for while he did not say the accident was wanted, those responsible by their precedent actions had paved the way for the accidents. He turned to the police enquiry in Montreal to show that influences intervene when inspectors try to enforce the law.

He claimed the Attorney-General should long ago have taken steps to enforce the Sunday law, which is respected in all the provinces of the Dominion except the Catholic province of Quebec. The people of the province want the Lord's Day respected, said Mr. Tremblay, and so did organized labor. Because the act has been infringed in this province for a number of years was no reason for its further infringement. "If I start killing a man a day for 20 days am I to plead at the end of that time that I had got into the habit of doing so?" demanded Mr. Tremblay.

Hon. J. N. Francoeur, who is a bachelor, said he had never taken a child under 16 to the cinema. Those he had taken there had always been over that age. He believed that the cinema should be a school of good education not only for children but for grown-up people. He would classify the pictures shown in Quebec under three heads, the first, news pictures, the second comedies, and the third problem plays or dramas. As to the first two classes he did not think the censors have any trouble, but as regards the dramas he believed the censors should exclude some altogether instead of cutting out some parts. He believed also that we should have more Canadian films, whereas now we appear to have little except American films, and doubtless the board of censors were embarrassed by the fact.

GAVE AMUSING PICTURE.

Hon. Mr. Francoeur amused the House for a time by picturing what effects some pictures may have on the aptitudes of young girls and others. For a woman of 40 to look 15 on the screen, with bobbed hair might have a certain influence on women, not that he approved of young girls of 15 on the screen looking like women of 40.

Mr. Francoeur said he would vote for the bill, but hoped some method would be found of enforcing it without undue trouble to proprietors or to the patrons. Was a young girl to carry her birth certificate in case she should get into an argument with a city policeman as to her age? Was the policeman to stage a battle with parents who claimed the child was over 16?

(Continued on Page 8)



Governors and Mayors Unite Forces for N.V.A Week

Completion of Saranac Sanatorium Main Topic of Drive

THE CHIEF OBJECTIVE of this year's National Vaudeville Artists' Week, which is to complete the \$500,000 sanatorium at Lake Saranac, has attracted the attention and evoked the endorsement of national, state and municipal officials everywhere. Every day for the past fortnight there have come to N. V. A. headquarters proclamations, letters and telegrams from Governors, Mayors and other public officials, stressing the meaning and importance of N. V. A. Week, its plans for the replenishment of the sick and benefit fund and emphasizing the main objective of this year's celebration from April 8 to 15—which is to meet the final cost of completing and opening the new sanatorium at Lake Saranac for the care and cure of tubercular patients of the theatrical profession.

The number and enthusiasm of these messages of encouragement from officials high in government and in the professions, are greater than in any previous year of N. V. A. activities, and well represent the esteem in which the artists of vaudeville are held by the public and its representatives everywhere. All of them speak of the unfailing response of vaudeville artists to every call for their services in cases of national disasters, epidemics, public charities and local philanthropies. There are invariably references to the joy which the artists spread throughout each year. But the Saranac sanatorium project elicits special commendation because of its practicality, its permanency and its realization of every modern scientific need for the treatment and cure of tuberculosis.

Governors Co-operate

Within the past week, this outstanding phase of the 1928 drive during N. V. A. Week was specially commended by Governors Alfred E. Smith of New York; A. Harry Moore of New Jersey; Flem D. Sampson of Kentucky; Albert C. Ritchie of Maryland; Fred A. Green of Michigan; Norman S. Case of Rhode Island; Fred R. Zimmerman of Wisconsin; Ralph O. Brewster of Maine; Huntley

N. Spaulding of New Hampshire; Ed Jackson of Indiana; Vic Donahey of Ohio; John Hammill of Iowa, and Ben S. Paulen of Kansas.

Mayors Proclaim N. V. A. Week

Mayors who proclaimed N. V. A. Week as a period of reciprocal rejoicing in aid of the sick and benefit fund, and who paid particular approval to the Saranac sanatorium project, are Charles H. Cline of Pittsburgh; Joseph L. Heffernan of Youngstown,

Ohio; G. Lloyd Weil of Akron; William Broennig of Baltimore; A. G. Schmedeman of Madison, Wis.; Jas. E. Dunne of Providence; Stewart Gilman of Sioux City; Herbert Males of Evansville, Ind.; W. B. Harrison of Louisville; Allen C. McDonald of Dayton, O.; Daniel W. Hean of Milwaukee; George H. Cryer of Los Angeles; William Hale Thompson of Chicago; George E. Leach of Minneapolis; James J. Thomas of Columbus, O.; Albert I. Beach of Kansas City, Mo.

Public-Spirited Men Co-operate

Among other enthusiastic advocates of N. V. A. Week and especially of its modern sanatorium plan who are urging their publics to join in the April 8 to 15 celebration, are District Attorney Asa Keyes of Los Angeles, famous as a humanitarian as well as a relentless prosecutor of criminals; Lieut. Governor F. Harold Van Orman of Indiana; State Treasurer Frank D. McKay of Michigan; City Attorney E. J. Lickley of Los Angeles and many others who besides publishing their endorsement of N. V. A. Week and its sick and benefit fund drive, as they have done in past years, this year give special emphasis and approval to imminent need of completing the model modern sanatorium at Lake Saranac.

Press Commends N. V. A.

Publishers and editors of newspapers, health and medical journals and other publications are also finding special cause for commending N.V.A.

SUPERLATIVE EQUIPMENT

VALLÉN CURTAIN CONTROLS AND TRACKS—

The noiseless electrically driven automatic curtain winch, operated by pushbutton from any desired location, that, in conjunction with the Vallén noiseless curtain track, draws back, or closes the heaviest curtains noiselessly and smoothly, lending that most desirable classy touch to your performances. Controls for any size or style of curtain. Tracks for any length or use.

FULCO BOOTH ACCESSORIES—

Besides the many familiar Fulco products such as Exit Boxes, Roll Ticket Holders, Carbon Savers, Lugs, Cement, Reels, Rewinders, etc., we now offer a most comprehensive line of self contained Booth Cabinets made by Fulco. These Cabinets consist of a steel work table, with or without steel drawers, fitted with hand or power driven enclosed rewinder, asbestos walled film storage cases with individual reel compartments, spare reel shelf, and approved waste can. There are several designs and combinations to choose from. These outfits are not a fad, they are positive assurance of safety against fire, and are a convenience and safeguard that ought to be in use in every projection room.

ROSS LENSES—

A well-known camera lens manufacturer has a slogan, "It's All In The Lens." If that is true of cameras, it is ten times true applied to the projector. The Ross Lens is made in England, of magnificent optical and mechanical construction. It has a very large working aperture F-2.4, permitting maximum transmission of light, and the formula used demands the rear combination very close to the aperture, the result being very bright, snappy, sharp images full of detail and contrast. The superiority of the Ross Lens over several other common makes of lenses in actual test is truly amazing.

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Again Some Value.

Tribute to "Jaydee" By His Lordship

English High Court of Justice Praises J. D. Williams' Ability

Last week owing to a typographical error, the tribute which J. D. Williams received in the High Court of Justice during his action against British National Pictures Limited, was omitted. Such a tribute is so unusual and noteworthy that it is well to repeat it.

HIS LORDSHIP—I should like to join in the hope which has been so eloquently expressed by Mr. Bevan that the result of this litigation may be that Mr. Williams will not in any way be impaired in the future in the exercise of those abilities which during the course of the trial it has become certain that he possesses.

Quebec Bill Passes

(Continued from Page 6)

Alderic Blain, Conservative of Dorion, Montreal, condemned the kind of films shown here. He told of one which he had seen in the United States where it had been censored and saw it again in Montreal where still more had been cut out, and the net result was to have an incomprehensible picture. He turned to the subject of divorce, quoted Prof. Dawson to the effect that divorce is on the increase, not only in the United States but also in Canada and Britain. Films are produced in California and sent to New York for distribution. The rate of divorce was highest for the United States in New York and was second in California. Was there any conclusion to be drawn from these facts? The development of the film industry seemed to move on apace with the increase in divorces. Mr. Blain laid it down that in his opinion most films shown are immoral.

Jos. Samson, Liberal, of Quebec Centre, thought that a boy of 14 who has to go to a factory to work should also be allowed to go to the cinema but he would vote for the bill.

PREMIER ENDS DEBATE.

Premier Taschereau wound up referring to Mr. Bouchard's plea for parental authority, but thought this was not in accord with his big speeches some years ago on the matter of compulsory education.

The Premier asked that the moral be left aside for a moment, and the matter of physically protecting the child be considered. Children cannot protect themselves against danger, as had been shown in the Laurier Palace disaster. The province has special laws to protect young children working in factories, both in the matter of health hygiene and morals. He urged that it be not said that the Legislature refused to take action following the report of the commissioner, who had studied the matter. Suppose another disaster should come, what would be said to the Legislature? Would it not be said that the commissioner had urged the Legislature to take action and the latter had refused to do so, and allowed conditions whereby another 78 children perished?

"I refuse to accept the responsibility for refusing to follow the recommendations of the commissioner," said the Premier. "Let each one take his responsibility, and those who are against, let them ask themselves what will be their position should another disaster come."

The Premier then turned to the matter of Sunday closing, and reproached Mr. Tremblay for trying to make a political speech out of a matter that was above politics. "The law exists due to Ottawa, but why should it always be charged that the Attorney-General refused to enforce it? Anyone can take action, and he had said time and time again that he would grant permission, give the use of his lawyers, and pay the costs to enable such actions to be taken. In Montreal, was it not the city authorities who should take action? For the past two years I have authorized the city to take over 400 actions against Sunday non-observance, but no, not one of the puritans, not a single 'sky pilot,' not one of those who are so anxious to see us in Heaven, would take the initiative. We want co-operation and not have people tell us always that the Government is to blame. I repeat, each time an association or society, or an individual wishes to take action, the permission of the Attorney-General is granted. The city council refuse to take action. Perhaps their inactivity is due to their

fear that the public want shows, and they, nor the 'good press,' nor the others who blame the Government wished to be the bull's eye.

"Very well, then," said the Premier, "I will not withdraw before the task, but will take the initiative which the others have refused to accept. I will consent to become the bull's eye."

The vote being taken, second reading was given the bill, the measure went through the committee of the whole, where Premier Taschereau amended it for the educational establishments, and third reading was given on the same division as on second reading."

Women Unsympathetic To Movie Legislation Exclusion of Children Under Sixteen Adverse to Public Opinion

Toronto women who are always interested in current events, appear to be unsympathetic to the Quebec legislation which prohibits children under sixteen from attending Motion Picture Theatres.

Mrs. J. N. Wood, convenor of the Films and Literature Committee for the Local Council of Women, is reported as follows, "I was in Montreal at the time of the Laurier Palace disaster last year and I rather think that the horror has had much to do with this sweeping change. If they try to enforce a law like that in Ontario it would undo all we have been trying to do." The Toronto Daily Star reports that, "A despatch from Quebec related that condemnation of films, a demand that the Government should follow the example of Britain in limiting the use of foreign films, the divorce question, morals of children, the physical protection of children, the Laurier Palace Theatre disaster and the system of law breaking which the

inquiry had brought to light all served in the Legislative Assembly Thursday, March 22nd, to bring on a piquant debate."

The vote stood fifty-seven to five and children under sixteen will not be permitted to attend Motion Picture Theatres whether accompanied by an adult or not.

Premier Taschereau amended the Bill to permit college, convents and other educational establishments to give movie shows for their pupils only in the schools.

Mrs. Wood stressed the point that a whole family would be thus excluded from viewing pictures.

Mrs. J. Pat MacGregor, president of the Local Council of Women, expressed an opinion that the law was "too drastic."

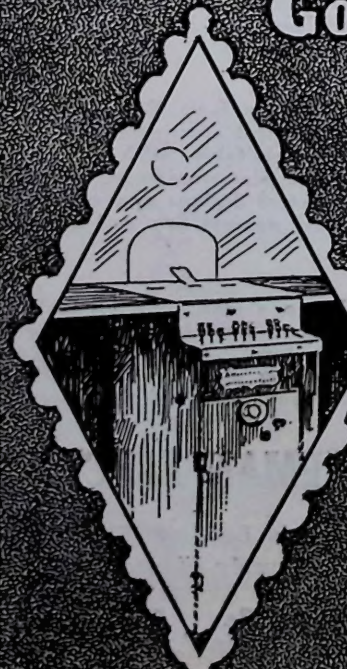
"It is unfair to other children who are not in colleges, convents and other educational establishments, if they cannot see the movies at all," said Mrs. MacGregor.

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DIGEST EDITORIAL

(Continued from Page 4)

Motion Pictures has proved many times that there is nothing wrong with the Movies. The Censor Board appears alive to its responsibilities; and it is only a very short time ago that our Government officials declared that Motion Pictures in Ontario had a higher moral standing than perhaps in many other states and countries.

Incidentally the labeling of pictures for children; and the non-attendance of children under sixteen to Motion Pictures will not unsex Modern Youth, physically, mentally or spiritually.

The sex of our modern youth has been handed down to them from their fathers and mothers, and the more these suppressed their normal natural emotions, the greater is the sex force our children have to contend with.

Judge Ben B. Lindsey and Wainwright Evans in "The Companionate Marriage" writes, "During a recent trip to New York I went to a notorious play, which the 'play jury' a few weeks later threatened to discipline. It was composed of a raw title, raw sex situations and mediocre acting."

"What did interest me beyond words was the audience. I had come there to watch that audience; and what I observed at first hand richly repaid the price I had to put up for my ticket."

"The people around me were of various ages. The Thirties, and Forties, particularly the Forties, predominated. Sometimes they edged into the Fifties. Collectively they represented what I here call Middle Age; Forty, more or less."

"They were obviously conventional folk; middle class for the most part, prosperous, moral correct."

"The atmosphere was electric, more like the air of an old fashioned religious revival meeting than anything I can think of. Women sitting so near that I could have reached out and touched them, nearly had hysterics. Choking sounds came from them which might have been sobs or nervous laughter. Others seemed to be in a kind of ecstasy, as if, in the person of the woman on the stage, 'sisters under their skins,' they were going through a vicarious thrill such as few of them had ever known in their own ill-educated, ill-regulated, unintelligent love-lives. Some of them broke suddenly into shrieks of laughter or lapsed into absorbed, fast-breathing silence."

"It was a curious and intriguing thing to watch. But it doubled the interest in me, when I suddenly realized that the phenomenon I was observing was confined to the decorous older generation."

"There they sat, clad modestly in the long bombazine mantle of the golden nineties, and found that the blending of this play with the ancient taboos of their own youth involved consequences of a biochemical-psychological sort, which for anyone wrapped in that chaste and protecting mantle, were very warm indeed."

"Among those present, as I have already indicated, were engaging members of the younger generation, wearing no mantle, spiffy unchaperoned little Flappers with their 'boy-friends,' some of them candidly 'necking,' others behaving for the time being, at least, with perfect propriety, and none of them manifesting any interest in the play other than the interest which people usually do manifest in any play. They were quite calm, entirely relaxed, and evidently free from whatever internal turmoil had rendered some of their elders almost beside themselves."

"The contrast was startling, where, I asked myself, were the riotous and hectic passions of youth?"

"Where that heat within the blood for which solicitous censors would provide an Ice Pack? Where the devastating Flame that would send these youngsters out through the doors of this theatre burning with unwonted desire?"

"The answer was that in these youngsters I saw no evidence of anything of the sort; but that in the oldsters I saw plenty. So far as Youth was concerned I saw what I constantly encountered in my court in dealing with youngsters; a cool, sophisticated, unpersonal appraisal of the passing show, as if to say, 'Don't worry about us, old Dears, we can take it or let it alone,' but watch your step, old Dears."

"My mind went back to a Motion Picture conference I had recently attended in Chicago. I had there come into rather violent collision with some excellent people who wailed a doleful ditty, the burden of which was 'Our boys and girls are being corrupted by the Motion Pictures and the stage;

they are in peril of hell-fire. We, who are old and steady and wise in all the matters, must come to the rescue and save these ignorant, guileless and unsophisticated boys and girls."

"Boys and girls, can you beat that? Why not themselves. Here at this play was evidence that if censorship measures were necessary it was up to the younger generation to come to the rescue and save its sinning and wayward elders from their riotous passions."

"I laughed aloud as I thought of it; and I could imagine some Flapper sitting behind me observing to her boy-friend, 'Look at that middle-aged guy two seats ahead. What a kick he's getting out of that bedroom stuff. And just lamp those crazy dames on our left! Oh, hum, it makes me wish I were old. We haven't reached it yet, Freddie. We're too young.'

"Such sex spectacles, when concretely presented on the stage, are supposed to shatter the poise and self-control of Youth, and to leave the tepid blood of age, or middle age, still tepid. Yet there, before my eyes was the exhibit of middle age shaken like a reed in the wind, by that which left Youth blaze and tranquil." Judge Lindsey — chapter I. "Companionate Marriage."

It would be interesting reading for "Belanger, the Board of Education, and the Board of Censors, for all those interested in 'labeling' pictures and legislating bills eliminating the admittance of children under sixteen to Motion Pictures, to study the experiences of Judge Ben Lindsey.

Judge Lindsey fought for and established the first Juvenile Court in the World, at Denver, Colorado. The Governments of Europe have bestowed upon him many degrees of honor.

In the records of British Parliament there is a reference by the Prime Minister commending Judge Lindsey's work, "which formed the basis of a reform in English jurisprudence."

His life is "a romance of humanitarian achievement"; and his crusade for the rights of youth, its protection and understanding is world-known; and from a legal aspect formed a prototype for the Juvenile Courts, throughout America and throughout the World.

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"Wild Geese"

Ray Lewis

WANTED

At once, Theatre to rent, in good live town, population not less than 3,000. Reply BOX 71, WESTON, ONTARIO.

Round About the Studios

Leonore Coffee, author of the screen version of "Chicago," the Pathe feature, has left Hollywood on a vacation trip which will take her first to Canada, then New York, where she will embark for Europe. She is accompanied by her husband, William J. Cowan. She will return to the De Mille Studios in June.

Word has just been received at the Universal home office in New York that "Home James," Laura La Plante's latest feature, has been shipped East from Universal City. Camera work on the picture was completed several weeks ago, and the editing and cutting early last week.

"Home James" is a rollicking comedy drama adapted by Morton Blumenstock from a story by Gladys E. Johnson. William Beaudine directed it.

Polly Moran holds the record for being in more Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer pictures than any other player on the lot. She is now slated to appear in Marion Davies' starring picture and the current Aileen Pringle-Lew Cody starring picture, and has just completed a part in William Haines' "He Learned About Women." During the past year she has appeared in more than 15 pictures.

George Marion, Jr., has been assigned to write the titles for "Partners in Crime," the new Wallace Beery-Raymond Hatton comedy, which now is in production at the Paramount studio. Mary Brian, Jack Luden and William Powell are in the cast and Frank Strayer is directing.

Motion picture rights of "The Twelve Pound Look," a playlet by Sir James M. Barrie, have been purchased by Tiffany-Stahl. It was played from coast to coast by Miss Ethel Barrymore.

Beatrice Van has thrown her bonnet in the ring with a companionate marriage story. Its title is "Sex Appeal" and Miss Van wrote it for Ernst Laemmle to produce following his latest Universal picture, "Phyllis of the Follies."



Emil Jannings, co-starring with Pola Negri in "Passion," a Tiffany-Stahl production released through Canadian Educational.

Coming



"Wild Geese"

Jeanette Loff's dizzy climb from organist to featured player in pictures within the space of a few months, is accelerated by her being given an important part in "Man Made Women," the next Leatrice Joy picture. She has already had several feature roles in Pathe-De Mille pictures, and is being touted as a "comer."

Laurel and Hardy, the sensational Hal Roach comedy team, have started another of their Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer outbursts, under the direction of James Parrott and supervision of Leo McCarey, vice-president of Hal Roach Studios. Anita Garvin and Kay Deslys have been signed by Warren Doane, general manager of the comedy concern, for the leading feminine roles. The title is announced as "Their Purple Moment."

One of the largest casts in the Paramount studio is being assembled for Pola Negri's new starring picture, "Three Sinners," which already is in production with Rowland V. Lee as director.

Warner Baxter, after an extensive search, has been cast as leading man. Tulli Carminati, Paul Lukas and Olga Baklanova—all of whom have had important roles in recent pictures—will have conspicuous roles.

The cast also will include Blanche Craig, in the role of a dowager countess, William von Hardenberg, Helen Hunt, Anton Vaverka, Ida Lewis and Arthur Rankin.

Lloyd Hamilton, who has been seen in many guises in his starring comedies for Educational, is playing a somewhat different role in "Between Jobs," his newest laugh film. In this comedy, which was directed by Norman Taurog, he will appear as carpenter and all-round handy man on a house construction job. Critics have described his work in this picture as the most laugh-provoking of his several recent comedy productions.

Charley Chase has completed his latest Hal Roach Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer comedy, "Limousine Love," under the direction of Fred Guiol, and the supervision of Leo McCarey. Viola Richard played the leading lady.

A nation-wide contest has determined the title to be used for Universal's newspaper Jewel production by Peter B. Kyne. It will be called "Freedom of the Press." Lewis Stone, Marceline Day and Malcolm McGregor are the featured players.

The little village of Chatsworth, Cal., is watching "Big Boy," Educational's four-year-old star, and his supporting cast work this week in a Big Boy-Juvenile Comedy which is being directed by Chas. Lamont. The youngster is having the time of his life on a farm near the village, feeding chickens, riding the pigs and making friends with the other barnyard animals.

Amid the clattering of hoofs of over two hundred horses, production of "The Eagle's Talons," Tom Tyler's fourth picture on the 1928-29 series for FBO has been completed under the direction of Robert DeLacy.

"The Eagle's Talons" is an adaptation from Wm. E. Wing's "Desert Madness." In addition to Tyler, the cast included Frankie Darro, Bee Amann, Ray Childs, Barney Furey, Leo Willett, Bill Nestell, Harry O'Connor and Vic Allen.

As the big super-serial for next year, Carl Laemmle has just acquired the rights to "Jungle Tales of Tarzan" and will put it into work at Universal City immediately.

"Beautiful But Dumb" which is now in the course of production for filming at the Tiffany-Stahl Studios, is founded on incidents in a series of stories written by Viola Brothers Shorr that ran in Liberty Magazine. She is now preparing the continuity. No director or cast has as yet been selected.

"Silks and Saddles" is the title under which Universal will release its next year's racing picture heretofore called "Thoroughbreds." "Silks and Saddles" features Marian Nixon and Richard Walling and was directed by Robert F. Hill.



Fay Webb as she appeared in "The Latest From Paris," a Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer feature starring Norma Shearer.